

R E M A R K S

In response to the Office action of March 25, 2003, applicants elect the claims of Group I, namely, claims 1-10, with traverse.

Applicants submit that the original apparatus claims are substantially identical in content to the original method claims and should be acted upon as being directed to the same invention.

Further, applicants are presenting herewith a new claim 19 directed to apparatus defining "means" for performing the steps of the method claims. It is respectfully submitted that claim 19 is a linking claim and, in accord with MPEP, Section 806.05(e), must be examined with the elected invention.

Action on the merits of the claims is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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